

SUMMARY OF TELEPHONIC INTERVIEWS

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the telephone interviews courteously granted by the Examiner to the undersigned on November 6, 2006, and November 8, 2006.

On November 6, 2006, the undersigned telephoned the Examiner to inquire concerning why the Action dated October 23, 2006, had been made Final. The reason given in the Action was that the Applicant's amendment had necessitated the new grounds of rejection. It was respectfully pointed out, however, that the subject amendments were only to incorporate the Examiner's own suggested changes in order to address certain claim objections that the Examiner had made in the preceding office action dated July 31, 2006. The Examiner had in fact required those changes. ("4. Appropriate correction is required.") It was pointed out that no substantive claim changes had been made, that in fact the only claim amendments that had been made were those required by the Examiner, and that the Applicant therefore had not raised any new issues nor necessitated any new grounds of rejection. Consequently, it was respectfully suggested that the finality of the Action of October 23, 2006 was inappropriate, and withdrawal thereof was accordingly respectfully requested.

The Examiner agreed to take the request under consideration, and on November 8, 2006, called back to confirm that the Final Action was being withdrawn and that a new, non-final Office Action would be issued instead.